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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/699,739 | 11/04/2003 | Mark Hanley Arnold | 018798-144 | 6404 |
| 21839 | 7590 | 08/30/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC (INCLUDING BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS) POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404 | | | GEHMAN, BRYON P | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3728 | |

DATE MAILED: 08/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

TJC

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/699,739 | Applicant(s) ARNOLD, MARK HANLEY | |
| | Examiner Bryon P. Gehman | Art Unit 3728 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/3/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 8, line 3, "into the at least one cutout region" lacks antecedent basis from parent claim 1.

In claim 9, line 2, "first and second side panels" lack antecedent basis from parent claims 1 and 2. In lines 3-4 and 4, "the respective side wall" lacks antecedent basis.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brondos (5,207,327). Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dionne (4,883,179)(Figures 9-11). Each discloses a unitary foam packing element, comprising a planar piece of foam (400, Figure 4A; as in Figure 9; respectively) precut with score lines to define a first planar portion (432 or 422; 90) and a second planar portion (440; 92), the first planar portion folded over the second planar

portion (Figures 4D-F; Figures 10 and 11) to form a flat cavity therebetween, the score lines further defining an end panel (at 430 or 420; 88 or portion thereof in any one plane) to form an end wall of the cavity.

As to claim 2, a second end wall (other of 430 and 420; other portion of 88 in a different plane) is also defined.

As to claim 5, the score lines also define various openings in the foam.

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either one of Brondos and Dionne. To merely form the structure as set forth in claim 1 above would be similarly anticipated by the forming of the structure of Brondos or Dionne.

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-4, 9-12 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brondos in view of Hanaue (3,854,650). Hanaue discloses side panels (22a, 22c) defined by score lines to define side walls of a cavity. To modify

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Brondos employing the side panel teaching of Hanaue would have been obvious in order to enclose the sides of the cavity, as suggested by Hanaue.

7. Claims 6-8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claims 1, 5 and 16 above, and further in view of Holley (4,122,946). Holley discloses employing separable insert pieces (20-22) from a planar foam block to comprise additional portions of a foam protective structure. To further modify the separable insert piece teaching of Holley to modify the combination further would have been obvious in order to employ the separable pieces as additional cushioning means, as suggested by Holley.

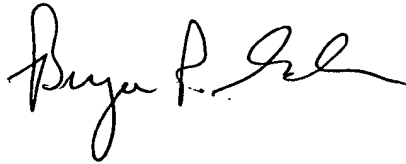
8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shown are scored foam insert pieces.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryon P. Gehman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4555. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Wednesday from 5:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu, can be reached on (571) 272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryon P. Gehman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Bryon P. Gehman
Primary Examiner
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BPG